

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated May 15, 2008. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the substance of Species I: claims 1-16 and to indicate the allowability of the claims.

Species I: claims 1-16 has been elected without traverse, for continued prosecution in this application, while the other non-elected species are hereby withdrawn from further prosecution in this application without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file divisional applications on any or all of the non-elected inventions or claims.


Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

In view of all the above, Applicants respectfully submit that certain clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely. These differences are more than sufficient that the present invention as now claimed would not have been anticipated nor rendered obvious given the prior art. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
June 16, 2008
SPF/JT